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each other.

REMARKS

Claims 55-57 are pending and rejected. Claims 55-57 are also amended.

Claims 55-57 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over co-pending patent application serial number 09/886,550. When the Examiner indicates allowable subject matter in this patent application, the appropriate terminal disclaimer will be submitted.

Claims 55-57 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Davis ('843). This rejection is traversed.

Davis '843 discloses an electrical connector with power and signal contacts. At issue here are the power contacts, disclosed in Figures 3, 9 and 11. These plug and receptacle contacts are very different than those of the invention.

Despite the Examiner's allegation to the contrary, Davis '843's power plug contact (Figure 3) only has one planar plug wall. This can best be seen in Davis' Figures 1 and 2, marked up versions of which were enclosed for the Examiner's convenience and review in copending patent application Serial No. 09/886,550. Furthermore, reference should be made to col. 3, lines 25-39, where Davis discusses *the* body portion 17 and its connection to terminations 22. Two spaced-apart planar walls are important so that more current can be passed through the plug for power applications *and* air can pass between the two walls to dissipate heat. Davis is not nearly that capable.

Furthermore, as shown in Davis' Figure 6, Davis's projecting section (i.e., the area between fingers 9) is not unobstructed. Rather, at least divider 7, lances 20, and the web having grooves 19 therein fill the area between fingers 9. These various members

will inhibit heat flow as well as do not meet the claimed "unobstructed" language.

Accordingly, Davis does not render the claims anticipated.

All claims being allowable, an early indication as such by the Examiner is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

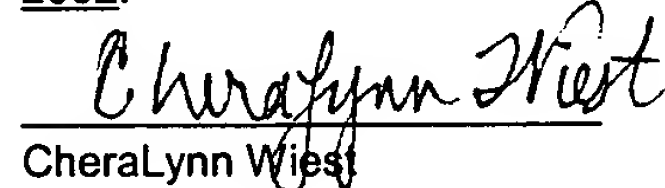


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CheraLynn Wiest

9/9/02

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Marked-Up Claims

55. (Amended) Matable electrical connectors having power and signal capabilities, comprising:

(a) a power receptacle comprising an insulative receptacle housing having at least one conductive receptacle contact, said receptacle contact comprising a pair of spaced walls forming therebetween a plug contact receiving space; and

(b) a power plug comprising an insulative plug housing having at least one conductive plug contact, said plug contact comprising a pair of spaced walls, said spaced walls each having a plate extending therefrom, said plates forming a projecting section engageable in the plug receiving space of the receptacle contact, said plates being opposed and spaced from each other by a distance less than a distance between said walls, said projecting section forming an unobstructed medial air gap.

56. (Amended) Matable electrical connectors, having power and signal capabilities, comprising:

(a) a power receptacle comprising an insulative receptacle housing having at least one conductive receptacle contact, said receptacle contact comprising a pair of spaced walls forming therebetween a plug contact receiving space; and

(b) a power plug comprising an insulative plug housing having at least one conductive plug contact, said plug contact comprising a pair of spaced walls, said spaced walls each having a plate extending therefrom, said plates forming a projecting section engageable in the plug receiving space of the receptacle contact, said plates being opposed and spaced from each other by a distance less than a distance between said walls, said projecting section forming a medial air gap, said medial air gap being unobstructed so as to allow heat building up therein to dissipate.

57. (Amended) Matable electrical connectors having signal and power capabilities, comprising:

(a) a power receptacle comprising an insulative receptacle housing having at least one conductive receptacle contact, said receptacle contact comprising a pair of spaced walls forming therebetween a plug contact receiving space; and

(b) a power plug comprising an insulative plug housing having at least one conductive plug contact, said plug contact comprising a pair of spaced walls, said spaced walls each having a plate extending therefrom, said plates forming a projecting section engageable in the plug receiving space of the receptacle contact, said plates being opposed and spaced from each other by a distance less than a distance between said walls and wherein distal portion of said opposed plates can come into contact with each other.